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Responding to the Great Commission and the need of the children of Tanzania, kids4school exists to enable them to fulfill an educational programme, to show them the love of Jesus and with God's grace help them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.

'Education is a human right with immense power to transform ...' Kofi Annan

As this is our first newsletter of 2013 it is worth remembering the vision and ethos of kids4school. That through sponsorship and personal involvement we affirm to change the lives of as many children as we can by ensuring that they are given an education as preparation for their future, that they will receive one meal a day each and every day of the year and that they will not only have their bodies and minds fed but that through our work and witness we may bring to them in word and deed the saving knowledge of a loving God. kids4school commits to continue its ministry in 2013, in the will of God; both in Tanzania and at home with the continued help of our sponsors, supporters and prayer partners.

In doing so two lives are changed each time you sponsor a child. You change the life of that child but I know for a certainty that your sponsored child will change your life too. We are blessed because God's promises are true. He tells us that anything we do for the least of His children we are doing for Him. What a powerful way to serve the risen Saviour! I am reminded of the words of a gospel song:

*Little is much, when God is in it;
Labour not for wealth of fame;
There's a crown and you can win it:
If you go in Jesus name.*

We all can't go but we can all make a difference. Thank you for the difference YOU are making!



Work & Witness Trip 2013 Update

17 May – 2 June, this will be an administrative trip: registering children, induction of recently appointed clerical/admin staff in Dodoma and classroom assistant updates. If interested in this type of work and witness trip or for more information please contact Tom, Gwen, Lorraine or Audrey at the office – 028 2827 2998

27 July – 11 August this team is already full with 18 team members.

10 August – 25 August (LIFT will be sending team members on this trip). Several spaces remain for those interested in building/labouring work.

5 October – 20 October (1st Donegore Presbyterian supplying the team members for this trip), some spaces may still be available check with office if interested. This will be mainly construction.

*The offering at the Carol Service was £390
Total raised at the Coffee Morning and Cake Sale was £950. We would like to thank all who supported us at these successful events.*

How do you want to receive your newsletter?

Just checking again - not everyone wants their newsletter by email but in order to cut back on postage it is preferable to send electronically. We are still happy to mail your copy. Just let Audrey or Lorraine know your preference.

Trustees Elected at AGM 2013

Barbara Bell, Alan Saunders and Margaret Robinson were re-elected. Nathan Montgomery and Nyaomi Dickson newly elected. Pray for the Trustees as they support Tom in the ministry.

Our dedicated staff in the kids4school office continues to work tirelessly for the ministry. Lorraine and Audrey continue to take care of all administration in the general office. Gwen volunteers two days a week and coordinates the Work and Witness programme with Tom.

Joanne, our newest recruit, started in the office at the beginning of April and she assists the Director, Tom, in all the administrative work that he has to do. This help will make such a difference to Tom. Welcome Joanne! The office will be manned 9am – 4pm daily

If you would like to request a speaker for your church services, youth groups, women's meetings or men's breakfast meetings please call Lorraine at our office 028 2827 2998 and she will be happy to make arrangements with you.

If anyone has any links with schools or clubs and think they would be interested in a visit from Alan, our kids4school youth representative, call Lorraine or Audrey. They are waiting for your call.

POSITIONS VACANT

could this be something for you?

Someone interested in the work of kids4school who would be willing to become the representative in their Church or area to help promote the work. Call us and let us know and we will arrange to give you the information you need.

Charity Shop Update

It's all change at the charity shop! Michelle Nixon has been appointed manager from 1 April 2013. Michelle has already put her mark on the shop and we can see how enthusiastic she is. The Trustees of kids4school would like to welcome Michelle to the ministry and wish her God's blessing as she settles into the role. Please pray for her and the shop ministry. Michelle will be happy to take clothes, bric-a-brac, toys and furniture items – all in re-saleable condition please.

Call into the shop and have a look around – you may find a bargain!

You will definitely find a very warm welcome.

Michelle is also looking for VOLUNTEERS to help her in the shop. If you can spare a few hours a week give her a call please



Temporary shop number: 07534956634



making a difference to kids like these

In December 2012, when Tom was in Tanzania, he registered 84 children for education at one of our newest projects – Bwawani School. Bwawani, in Swahili, means dam as the school is close to an old dam. Many times there is no water in the dam, however this year because of the rains there is some.

The children that were registered are all from the poorest families. Many are orphans with neither father nor mother and living with elderly grandparents, others have a mother only. There is sickness amongst the grandparents and parents; untreated diabetes and other serious conditions and there are no treatments available.

kids4school has registered the children in faith that they will be sponsored. We could not leave them without hope. We trust that the Lord will provide for them through our generous sponsors.

Tanzania's Children

Life in Tanzania is a struggle for families, but the life of a child is even harder. Imagine, growing up in a world where you lack the very basics in life, food, clean water, medicine, shelter, safety, a bed of your own. Beyond that, there are no toys, no dolls, no footballs, no sweets and treats. School would be wonderful to attend, the path out of poverty, but there is no money for school fees, so you stay home and wait for a miracle, but for most there is none, life is simply survival, staying alive.

Death is very common here - 20% of Tanzania's children do not reach the age of five. Life is hard, and yet, most people are unaware of the plight of many of Tanzania's children. They are amongst the voiceless of the world, needing others to speak on their behalf. kids4school ministries is proud to speak for these children.

Growing up anywhere brings its share of problems, but growing up in a place like Tanzania is a struggle that is beyond imagination. We cannot begin to put ourselves into the shoes of any of these families – we just cannot comprehend the poverty.

School is free through primary grades, but the children must have a uniform, shoes and a few books to attend. Class size is often about 100 students to the room. The teachers are tired and de-motivated and who can blame them working in such poor conditions? Classrooms are dismal and dusty, many in need of repair. Floors, if there is one are full of holes and since there are few desks the children must sit on the floor! There are no text books, no chalk for the makeshift blackboard and no pencils or paper to write on. How can children learn in such an environment? Yet, if the children reach standard 7 they are expected to sit an exam that will decide their future. If they pass they will go to secondary school, if not it's back to the cycle of poverty with no hope for a future other than what their parents and grandparents have known.

Would you believe that in some families the parents have to choose who should attend school? It's that sad – choose who will get an education and who will not. There's just not enough money to send all the children. That is why perhaps one of the boys will go to school while the others hang around until maybe someday extra money may be found to buy the necessary uniform, shoes and books to send another sibling to school. For that is how it works in Tanzania, no family can ever come up with the money alone, sometimes the extended family may help to send children to school.

The girls in the families usually stay at home and look after the little ones, do laundry, cooking and fetch water, usually from many miles away, and carry it home.

The main staple of Tanzania is Ugali made from maize flour. There is very seldom meat to eat and indeed some days there is no food to eat at all!

The future does not look bright. It would be wonderful if all the children could learn how to read and write, but it may never happen. There is no way out of this poverty trap except to get an education. That is the mission of kids4school. We believe that the Lord has placed us in the schools around Dodoma to work initially in the education system getting children into school, getting them an education and with God's help opening up their future to show them that there is more to life than the poverty they have known. kids4school also brings the love of God in word and deed to the children. Our prayer is that His love will be demonstrated in their lives and that through our efforts, in His name, God's wonderful salvation will come to each of our children and their families.

The reality is that you and I can make the difference in the lives of children in Tanzania. Through the sponsorship programme, the feeding programme and the clean water projects we have already made a difference to the 600 children that are in school. To those that made it to secondary school we continue financial support and to those that didn't get to secondary school we have started the vocational training programme. Thank you for making this possible. Your sponsorship makes a difference.

We have been blessed that many of our supporters have been part of the Work and Witness programme. We have had three to four teams out each year since 2009. This is a great opportunity to be hands-on with our work in the schools and with the children but more importantly it is the chance to show God's love in action. You will be blessed much more than you will ever imagine if you come on one of our trips.

We have three teams planned for this year. The July team is full but we still have space in August and October – call the office for more information; we would love to have you on one of our trips very soon.

Now for exciting news about a future project for kids4school ministries – discussions have been taking place and plans are being made to build a dedicated Christian school that kids4school will administer. It is to be called kids4school Christian Academy, the emphasis being on the Christian influence that will be paramount in the education of children at this school.

You will hear more about this new venture as it develops. We would encourage you to continue to support the ministry with your prayers both for our ongoing projects and the new venture.

We continue to depend on God for His leading and guidance and trust Him to provide ALL that is necessary for the work and to enable us all to work for Him while there is still time.

Say not, there are yet four months, and then comes harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest' John 4 v 35

Recipes from Tanzania

If you decide to try this or any of the recipes that will appear in future newsletters please let me know what you think of them

DUCKLING DAR ES SALAAM

Yield: 8 portions

Duckling is a great delicacy in Tanzania and is usually served when there are special guests. The same recipe is used for other meats and is particularly good with veal and chicken. Accompaniments are cooked bananas (a must), rice, potatoes, cassava and Ugali made with white cornmeal.

In a 6-quart Dutch oven or baking dish:

Sauté: 1 cup ONIONS finely chopped, and

1 cup TOMATOES in small dice, with
1 tsp. SALT
1 tsp. CURRY POWDER (optional)
1/2 tsp. CRUSHED RED PEPPER (optional) in
4 Tbs. OIL or MARGARINE until soft



Add 1 x 6-lb. DUCKLING, cut up into about 12 pieces.

Sauté the duckling lightly for 2 or 3 minutes

Add 2 quarts WATER

Cover and simmer for 30 minutes or bake at 350 degrees until duckling is tender.



Slightly green bananas or plantains may be simmered with the duckling. Or they may be prepared separately and served as a side vegetable. For this allow 1/2 banana per portion or 4 large bananas.

We are shipping another container to Tanzania later this year. We have received many desks and wash-hand basins and toilets that will be going to kids4school Christian Academy. If you have a gift for your sponsored child(ren) we will be happy to send it in the container. This time because of customs and space we ask if you would send only items that will fit into one shoe box for each child. Before you send the gift would you please make a list of the contents and stick it on the front of the shoe box. This will make clearing customs a lot easier than last year. Thank you xx

We affirm the following commitments to each person that sponsors a child through **kids4school**:

- We commit to honour Jesus Christ in all that we do.
- We commit to directly impact each child's individual development. We've seen over and over again that what happens in the life of a child is much more significant than what happens in the environment that surrounds the child.
- We commit to use money only for the purpose for which it was raised.
- Each **kids4school**-sponsored child has only one sponsor for their education.
- We encourage sponsors to develop meaningful relationships of encouragement with the children they sponsor.
- We commit to encourage children to respond to the gospel, to learn about Jesus and discover a lifelong relationship with God.
- We commit to being financially accountable.

Tom Robinson (Director)



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